

JUNE 21, 2007 REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Present at meeting: Ralph Bentley Supervisor
 Frank Hill Councilman
 Ken Higgins Councilman
 Robert Olson Councilman
 Shirley Hayes Councilwoman
 Paul Smith Highway Superintendent
 Arlene Mayer Town Clerk

Also: Tom Johansen, Sandy Smith, Mr. & Mrs. William Trudsoe, Ken Dott, Chuck Hilton, Joe Dooris

Supervisor Bentley opened the meeting and welcomed guests.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES- The minutes of May 17th were approved by
MOTION of Messrs. Olson & Hill, all ayes.

REPORTS- Supervisor, Town Clerk, Highway Garage Building, Zoning and
Assessor

APPROVAL OF JUNE ABSTRACTS-

RESOLUTION NO. 79 OF 2007

Mrs. Hayes & Mr. Hill introduced Res. 79 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE JUNE ABSTRACTS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the payment of
the June Abstracts:

Highway Vouchers # 132-161	\$69,446.88
General Vouchers # 152-181	\$28,225.10
Highway Abstracts 15 & 16	\$18,151.85
General Abstracts 15 & 16	\$45,696.48

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

COMMUNICATIONS-

Schroon Lake Park District

RE: Update on Dam Project

New York State Assembly

RE: Property Taxpayer Protection Act

Action on Communications-

In a letter from SLPD, Joseph Koch, Commissioner is notifying the Town of first reimbursement of monies left from the Starbuckville Dam Project. First reimbursement to the Town of Horicon is 29.376% of \$2000,000.00 or \$58,752.00.

OLD BUSINESS-

Cemetery Rules- Councilman Olson had a complaint regarding flowers being pulled up from a grave in South Horicon Cemetery. Councilman Olson checked with Cemetery Custodian and he did not touch the flowers. Even though the rules of cemetery state that flowers cannot be planted in the ground, the custodian does not disturb ones that are. There were a few four wheeler tracks around also. In the past there have been reports of flowers being taken, but those are artificial flowers. Possibly an animal took flowers?

Watering tub repair- The Schroon Lake Park District Commissioners need to be contacted before anything further can be discussed regarding the repair and possible rebuilding of the watering tub. The property is owned by the District even though maintained by Horicon. Supervisor Bentley is trying to get in touch with Joe Koch.

Zoning Amendment- We have no communication from APA regarding the amendment sent to them last month. The clerk has been in contact with Brian Grisi, but there has been no progress. Mr. Grisi suggested we send the SEQR form

and negative declaration Resolution and hopefully we will hear something before next meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 80 OF 2007

Messrs. Olson & Higgins introduced Res. 80 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION OF NEGATIVE DECLARATION AND SUBMISSION OF SHORT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FORM TO THE ADIRONDACK PARK AGENCY

WHEREAS, the Horicon Town Board held a public hearing on May 17, 2007 for the proposed correction, which is to actually re-instate previous wording from the Horicon Zoning & Project Review, AND

WHEREAS, said proposed zoning amendment was submitted to the APA for their approval and action, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby submit a Short Environmental Assessment Form and a Negative Declaration to the APA for inclusion with the proposed amendment concerning Section 14

“ GENERAL EXCEPTION TO MINIMUM LOT AREA REQUIREMENTS:
Sub-heading 14.10 Pre-Existing Lots and Subdivisions.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

Mill Pond Lights- Supervisor Bentley reported that the lights and poles selected by Councilwoman Hayes from the catalog were priced at \$1,437.46 each. The Supervisor has since found out that Hague has brand new lights very similar that they want to sell for \$800.00 each. Supervisor Bentley went to Hague to look at the lights and they have outlets, flag holders and bulbs included. We could purchase the fifteen needed for \$12,000.00.

RESOLUTION NO. 81 OF 2007

Mrs. Hayes & Mr. Hill introduced Res. 81 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PURCHASE OF LIGHTS FOR MILL POND

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the purchase of 15 streetlights from the Town of Hague for a price of \$800.00 each.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

Supervisor Bentley said that Chuck Hilton is going to wire the lights. We will ask Harry Balz for information regarding supplies needed. The lights will be picked up from Hague soon. The work is scheduled for September and Town will need a permit from NYS because of work by Route 8.

NEW BUSINESS-

Adirondack Honor Roll-Councilman Hill reported on offer by Erwin Robbins to pay the cost of having a new sign made that would duplicate the old Adirondack Honor Roll sign once standing in the hamlet. The sign was originally made of wood and through the years the wood rotted and the sign was removed and discarded. Mr. Robbins is asking the Board if a new sign can be made and put back in the same place it once stood. The Town owns the site so it would be no problem. Councilmen Hill & Higgins made a MOTION to authorize a new sign be made and placed at original site, all ayes. The clerk will contact Mr. Robbins regarding cost of sign. Councilman Hill will contact sign maker and begin preparations.

Fountain in Mill Pond- Divers from the Fire Company fixed the pipe in the fountain and it is working again. The divers also sandbagged where pipe goes in. The pond needs to be lowered for a permanent repair, but this will work for now. Chuck Hilton volunteered to work on repair when time comes. Hopefully, this

will be last time pond will need to be lowered. The clerk will write a thank-you to Chief James Hayes and his crew for fixing the problem.

RESOLUTIONS-

RESOLUTION NO. 82 OF 2007

Messrs. Higgins & Hill introduced Res. 82 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT QUIT-CLAIM DEED
FROM HARRISONS ON ORLIN DUELL ROAD**

RESOLVED, that the Town of Horicon does hereby accept the Quit-Claim Deed from Robert & Leslie Harrison confirming the Towns ownership of a portion of Orlin Duell Road.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

RESOLUTION NO. 83 OF 2007

Messrs. Higgins & Hill introduced Res. 83 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION ACCEPTING STRIP OF LAND KNOWN AS
“ OPEN SPACE/GREEN AREA ” FROM ADIRONDACK LODGES**

WHEREAS, in 1990 Adirondack Lodges conveyed to the Town of Horicon 7+- acres of land in Adirondack, New York, to be used as a Town Park, AND

WHEREAS, at that time Adirondack Lodges retained ownership of a strip of adjoining land known as the “ open space/green are” in order to meet the density requirements necessary for their added units, AND

WHEREAS, Adirondack Lodges no longer needs this strip of land and wishes to convey ownership to the Town of Horicon, NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of Horicon does hereby accept dedication of this parcel of land that adjoins the Town Park parcel given to the Town of Horicon in 1990, BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, that the Town Supervisor is authorized to take all actions and sign all documents necessary to effect this Resolution.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

RESOLUTION NO. 84 OF 2007

Mr. Higgins & Mrs. Hayes introduced Res. 84 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION TO NAME TWO NEW ROADS
AND ADD TO HORICON 9-1-1 ROAD SYSTEM**

RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Horicon does hereby accept two new roads into the 9-1-1 Road System. The new roads are located in Crystal Lake Development and are as follows:

Grove Lane Bluff Lane

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

RESOLUTION NO. 85 OF 2007

The members of the Horicon Town Board introduced Res. 85 and moved its adoption:

**RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE NEW YORK STATE
PROPERTY TAXPAYER PROTECTION ACT**

WHEREAS, the tremendously high property tax burden on New York families and businesses is the number one issue facing our community today, and the sheer cost of living in New York has forced many residents and businesses to leave, thus slowing the economic engine of the state; and

WHEREAS, young people are finding it difficult to purchase homes, seniors are struggling to maintain their homes, and businesses are facing immense challenges to create and retain jobs; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Minority Members have introduced the “ New York State Property Taxpayer Protection Act (Assembly Bill 8775),” which puts forth new and innovative ideas for property tax reform that limit the amount school

districts can raise annually through local tax levies to four percent or the rate of inflation, whichever is less; in addition the Act would relieve municipalities and school districts of unfounded mandates, reduce county Medicaid costs, strengthen financial accountability over school tax dollars, promote local government efficiency, and encourage local option insurance pooling; and

WHEREAS, the “ New York State Property Taxpayer Protection Act” will help fix New York’ s broken property tax system, providing homeowners, businesses and municipalities significant and lasting relief from the crushing burden of skyrocketing property taxes; and now, therefore, be it Resolved, that the Town of Horicon pauses in its deliberations to acknowledge New York State’ s property tax crisis and urges the immediate passage and chaptering of the “ New York State Property Taxpayer Protection Act,” which will help local governments reinvigorate New York’ s economy by providing incentives for people and businesses to move and stay here; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Governor of the State of New York, the Temporary President of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly, and to each member of the New York State Legislature.

Ayes: 5 Nays: 0

Other business-

Supervisor Bentley reported that he has been in touch with the County regarding the dam. The County says the dam is in no danger and they plan on coming up with proposals for repair by Tuesday.

Paving- Councilman Hill reported that HS Smith would like to pave at the Dorset/Palisades intersection. He would like to re-do the ditches and culverts and re-pave, as it is in really bad shape. It would cost approximately \$6,000.00 and would make a vast improvement. If necessary money can be taken out of winter sand code as we did not use any money from that.

RESOLUTION NO. 85 OF 2007

Messrs. Hill & Higgins introduced Res. 85 and moved its adoption:

RESOLUTION TO AUTHORIZE PAVING ON DORSET ROAD

RESOLVED, that the Town Board does hereby authorize the Highway Superintendent to prepare and pave a small portion of Dorset Road and Palisades Road at the intersection at a cost of approximately \$6,000.00.

Hill-aye, Higgins-aye, Olson-aye, Hayes-aye, Bentley-aye

Planning Board Meeting- Councilman Olson reported that the RFP that Laura Moore is preparing is not yet completed, but should be finished in a few days. Once we receive it the Town will advertise for proposals.

Tax Abatement Program- Councilman Olson said he is trying to get information to bring to the Town Board and also refer it to the Town Attorney. Supervisor Bentley suggested it would be simpler and much less involved to waive the septic and building permit fees for first time homeowners. The tax abatement program would only save about \$50.00 for average home, the permit waivers would save homeowners more. Councilman Olson said he would welcome any tax reduction.

Justice Report- Mr. Dooris asked why Town Justice did not submit a monthly report. There is usually a report submitted.

Missing Real Estate signs- Peter Carstensen from Land O Lakes Realty said he would like to know how his signs turned up at the Community Center. Mr. Carstensen said the signs were ones he posted on east shore of Schroon Lake. Someone told him signs were here and he came in and got them. Mr. Carstensen

said it was “inferred” that County workers took the signs, but they said they never do that. He said he did not get a satisfactory answer as to how the signs turned up at Community Center and why someone did not call him.

Horicon Museum Expansion- Tom Johansen told of plans to put addition on museum. Also, the library building needs to be inspected the next time pond is lowered, and wood needs to be painted. Mr. Johansen said some of the historical documents from the museum are being moved to the library.

Paving on Shaw Hill- Supervisor Bentley said he has gotten a lot of good comments regarding paving job on Shaw Hill. The Supervisor said Superintendent Smith and the Highway crew did a great job. By paving earlier in the season the Town has saved some money.

Mill Pond Fountain- Chuck Hilton asked about the Town having the bottom stones on the fountain stained darker so they match better. Supervisor Bentley said we would notify Blair Gregson about doing it, and also ask if the stone on the fountain has been sealed. Mr. Hilton said he would permanently repair the pipe to fountain the next time pond is lowered.

This being all the business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 PM by MOTION of Messrs. Olson & Hill, all ayes.

Respectfully submitted: Arlene Mayer, Town Clerk